secure a good recurring income. The Municipality must work out the proposal and then come up to Government for a loan, if necessary. The metalling of all the roads in the town is a very large order.

Member.—In 1094, the matter was brought forward at the Assembly and sanction was accorded for the improvement of one of the important roads. No funds were provided for the purpose in 1095 and the work was not undertaken.

Dewan.—I think the soil of Quilon is gravelly. It is not soft and sandy like some other places and road-making there is not a costly affair.

Member.—The attention of the Council has been called to the miserable condition of the roads very often by the people.

Dewan.—The Municipality should improve their condition.

Member.—Their financial condition is such that they cannot undertake it. If this is not done by Government, I think the improvement of these roads will have to be indefinitely put off.

Dewan.—The matter will be considered, but I am afraid I can hold out no hopes.

158. Certain wants of the Shencottah Taluk and suggestions for improving the same.

Mr. S. Subrahmanya Karayalar B. A. (Member, Shencottah Taluk) submitted that the taluk was in need of big reservoirs for storing water during the rainy season, for agricultural purposes. As per the tank restoration scheme, the major tanks of Samburvadakara, Elathur, Kilankad and Ayikudi were being improved, but the other villages had practically no tanks worth mentioning. At several sessions of the Assembly he had suggested the diversion of the Palaruvi or Eathapadayar river, and Government had issued orders to investigate the scheme, but nothing came out of it. The Member stated that in the absence of any of those big schemes, the people would be satisfied if one big reservoir was constructed for each of the following pakuthies of Shencottah, Karkudi, Puliyara, Pudur and Mekkara and the existing tanks also maintained.

The Member further submitted that the ryots were under the impression that Government proposed to levy a cess for the restoration works carried out during recent years and prayed that no further burden be imposed in view of the fact that the demand for labour was increasing day by day.

The Member then urged the following works in connection with agriculture:—

1. Improvement of the road from Puliyara to Arienkavu Railway tunnel.
2. A bridge across the river at Pudur.
3. Improvement of the road from Mannuvoikal to Karkudi.
4. Widening of the bridge on the way to the Railway station from Shencottah near the timber depot.
5. A bridge between Ayikudi and Varadiergramom.

The Member also requested Government to provide grazing grounds in all pakuthies from the unreserved areas whenever possible or from the reserved forests. He next dwelt on the insanitary condition of the Shencottah town which was entirely due to the Perumalkulam tank in the very heart of the town. Government were appealed to at various sessions of the Assembly that the tank should be closed if any improvement should be effected at all, and the Member submitted that, if the tank was acquired by Government, the people were prepared to pay the cost. He finally prayed Government to take up the matter and find a solution at an early date.

Another grievance was that in his taluk the same officer was invested with revenue, civil and criminal jurisdiction, and the appointment of separate officers as Tahsildar, Munsiff and Magistrate was prayed for.

The language question was then represented, and it was suggested that only officers whose mother tongue was Tamil should be appointed in that taluk and that the language of the court should be Tamil and not Malayalam, as the bulk of the

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people were pure Tamilians and were ignorant of Malayalam. Lastly, the introduction of industrial and technical branches of studies in the local higher grade English school and the appointment of a non-official President for the Shencottah Municipality were urged.

Dewan's reply.—Your memo of subjects did not contain any information as to the various items about which you proposed to speak. So no definite replies can be given just now. The question of sanitation of Shencottah town was brought forward by another member and has been answered. In regard to the appointment of a separate Munsiff-Magistrate and Tahsildar, there is not sufficient work for a whole time Munsiff at Shencottah.

Member.—At least a Munsiff-Magistrate and a separate Tahsildar may be given.

Dewan.—That is part of the general question of separating the executive from the judiciary which is engaging the attention of Government. As for the appointment of Tamil knowing officers, officers serving in Tamil taluks should, no doubt, know Tamil and the question of instituting an examination in Tamil for them is under consideration.

Member.—The Tahsildar must be a competent and first rate man. He has often to deal with officers of the adjoining British territory. Formerly, the Tahsildars of Shencottah were men who were seniors in service aud who were promoted as District Magistrates.

Dewan.—Do you mean to say that the present man is incompetent ? Have you any grievances against him?

Member.—No.

Dewan.—How can we say except by his work that a man is a first-rate or a second-rate man. Who knows that the present man is not going to become a District Magistrate?

The question of industrial education is under the consideration of Government.

A non-official President will be given for your Municipality.

159. Certain needs of the Karungapalli Taluk.

Mr. Sankaran Padmanabhan (Member, Karungapalli Taluk) represented the urgent need for the following works:—

(1) Early construction of the Quilon Alleppey road.

(2) Metalling the Karunagapalli-Sastancottah road.

(3) Repairing and widening the canal from the Ashtamudi lake to Mukundapuram so as to make it fit for boat traffic at all seasons.

(4) Repairing the Krishnapuram-Kuttitheru road.

(5) Repairing the Thodiyur-Kayankulam canal so as to make it navigable.

(6) Repairing the Kulasekharapuram-Chakkuvalli road.

(7) Extending to the Pallikal-Thodiyur road the road 8 miles in length, already constructed by the people in the northern portion of the taluk.

(8) Opening of a native vaidyasala at the eastern extremity of the Tazhava pakuthi.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

160. Needs of the eastern pakuthies of the Tiruvalla Taluk.

Mr. K. M. Mammam Mappilla (Member, Tiruvalla Taluk) was permitted to speak in the place of Mr. Muraniyal Krishnan Govindan deceased. He first urged the conversion of the Police sub-station at Mallapalli into a charging station. He also requested Government to take over the maintenance of the Nedumkunnam-Aunikad road, the Tiruvalla-Mallapalli road and other roads opened by the people.

Dewan's reply.—As regards the opening of a charging station at Mallappalli, it has been reported that there is no sufficient crime in the locality to justify it

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